

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

**APPROVED** 

Friday, March 13, 2020

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland convened in the 6th floor Patuxent Conference Room, Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, Rockville, Maryland, at 1:10 P.M. on Monday, March 13, 2020.

## **PRESENT**

Councilmember Sidney Katz, President Councilmember Tom Hucker, Vice President

Councilmember Gabe Albornoz
Councilmember Evan Glass
Councilmember Nancy Navarro, President
Councilmember Craig Rice
Councilmember Craig Rice

Councilmember Hans Riemer

The President in the Chair.

## **SUBJECT:** Council Retreat

Discussed various administrative issues, including the Council calendar for 2020. Examined, in light of COVID-19, certain models to continue core constituent and legislative Council work but limit physical public interaction. Considered whether to close some or part of the Council Office Building to the public; contemplated in-person scenarios and alternative methods to in-person Council sessions – including Skype, phone, and live internet streaming; deliberated approaches to limit presence, not participation, including ways to submit electronic and hard copies of testimony, to listen to public hearings by phone, and/or to receive proclamations by mail; reflected on how to determine what, in addition to budget-related items, are deemed essential Council session agenda items; discussed appropriate agency participation during sessions; considered possible Department of Health Human Services (DHHS) and emergency management briefings, and press access; and considered telework guidance and options.

Discussed the ability of nonprofits and government agencies to provide services, including mental health services. Suggested convening a meeting to discuss various ramifications. Considered possible systems to address community safety net concerns including meals, especially for those students who are eligible for free and reduced meals. Noted websites/organizations where the community may obtain assistance.

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 P.M.

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Council Staff present Lisa Mandel-Trupp, Sharon Ledner, David Kunes, Joy Nurmi, Ken

Silverman, Cindy Gibson, Valeria Carranza, Gene Smith, Amanda Mihill, Cecily Thorne, Linda McMillan, Bertha Cerzosimo, Craig Howard, Bob Drummer, Sonya Healy, Sandra Marin, Juan Jovel, Julio Murillo, and

Selena Mendy Singleton.

County Executive staff: Dale Tibbits, Mary Beck, David Gottesman

Bethesda Beat: Briana Adhikusuma

This is an accurate account of the meeting:

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.

Clerk of the Council